CFC based refrigerants for Air-conditioning the coaches

2518. SHRI SANTHOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI R.K.ANAND:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have been using CFC based refrigerants for air-conditioning of their coaches;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per Montreal Protocol on Environment to which India is a signatory has directed phasing out all CFC based substances from the world by 2010 as the CFC proved to be Ozone depleting agency; and

(c) if so, what action plan Government have chalked out to phase out CFC based coaches in India and how far it has been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. R-12 refrigerant was used in Air-conditioning (AC) coaches manufactured before 1994. R-12 refrigerant has to be phased out by 2010. After 1994, Railways have already switched over to manufacturing AC coachers with environment friendly R-22 gas which is going to stay till 2040.

(c) R-12 refrigerant has to be phased out by 2010. Out of 780 AC coaches based on this refrigerant, about 300 coaches would complete their normal service life by 2010 and will be phased out in due course. The balance 480 coaches shall be converted with environment friendly R-134 a refrigerant before 2010. Work is in progress in a phased manner. Provisions of Montreal Protocol will be implemented in full.

ATMs in trains

2519. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any proposal to set up ATMs in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?